

REMARKS

Claims 24 and 25 are cancelled. Claims 1, 10, 19 and 26 are amended. Thus, claims 1-23 and 26 remain pending in the application. Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application, in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections – Double Patenting and Allowable Subject Matter

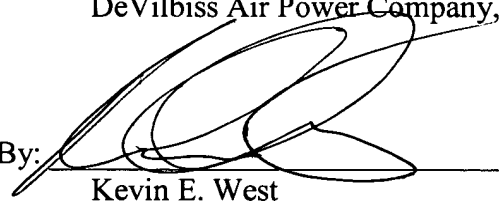
Applicant wishes to seek expeditious issuance of a patent containing claims directed to subject matter allowed by the Patent Office. Thus, Applicant has rewritten claim 19 to present claim 25 in independent form. Additionally, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 10 to include the subject matter of claim 25, obviating the rejections of those claims. However, Applicant does not acquiesce to the rejections of claims 1-23 and 26 and reserves the right to present claims drawn to the same or similar subject matter for consideration in a continuing application. Additionally, Applicant reserves the right to withdraw the present amendment and traverse the rejections of claims 1-23 and 26 should the Patent Office assert new grounds for rejection of the claims presently indicated as being allowable.

CONCLUSION

The application is respectfully submitted to be in condition for allowance of all claims. Accordingly, notification to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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